

From: Art.4.1(b)
 To: CAB CECILIA MALMSTROM CONTACT: BILLAUX Cecile (CAB-MALMSTROM): Art.4.1(b)
 Subject: EU Citizens ask you to stand up in favor of ambitious and mandatory regulation on Conflict Minerals
 Date: mercredi 16 mars 2016 18:15:04
 Attachments: image001.png

Dear Ms Malmström, Ms Billaux and Art.4.1(b)

I have the pleasure of informing you that up-to-date more than 900 citizens have signed [our petition](#) demanding you to stand up in favor of an ambitious regulation on « conflict minerals ». Please find below the email these citizens addressed you.

Subject: Stand up in favor of an ambitious regulation on « conflict minerals »

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

The “conflict minerals” regulation is currently being negotiated between the European Parliament, the European Commission and the 28 EU Member States. The stated objective is to break the links between natural resources and conflicts, as is the case in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo but also in Myanmar or Colombia. Confronted today with violence and abuses by armed groups, it is the local populations that are paying the price for the exploitation of certain natural resources.

While I welcome this initiative from the European Union, I am concerned about the position adopted by the Council on **17 December 2015**, in which EU Member States only propose a voluntary opt-in system that ignores the vast majority of minerals entering the EU market within finished or semi-finished products. As a citizen, I am deeply worried that the products I buy might hide a story of suffering; I therefore want to ask for a legislation that ensures that the products I use daily do not fuel violence and abuses. I demand a legislation that put at its core the ethical dimension of production and trade.

For the legislation to truly contribute to breaking the links between natural resources and conflicts, I call on you to:

1. Show leadership on this issue by supporting mandatory due diligence requirements along the entire supply chain.
2. Support a Regulation that aligns with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance on Conflict Minerals, by:
 - Ensuring that all due diligence obligations are consistent with the OECD standards
 - Engaging companies downstream of metal importers, in particular companies that place products containing covered minerals on the EU market
 - Including language that reflects the flexible and progressive nature of due diligence.

As a European citizen, I ask you to promote the adoption of an effective regulation that will truly contribute to putting an end to conflicts, and I am sure I can count on you for this.

Kind regards,

Below you will find an overview of media referring to this new campaign.

Belgium	https://www.kerknet.be/kerknet-redactie/nieuws/nood-aan-bindend-europees-plan-voor-conflictmineralen
The Netherlands	http://www.wereldarmoededag.nl/1659470215.html
Italy	http://www.unimondo.org/Notizie/Minerali-dei-conflitti-e-ora-di-tutelare-i-diritti-umani-155232
France	http://www.newspress.fr/communiqu%C3%A9%20294972_3721_RSS-FN-NP-0.aspx?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter
International	http://business-humanrights.org/en/civil-society-coalition-calls-on-eu-govts-to-support-mandatory-due-diligence-regulation-on-conflict-minerals#c133868
Europe	http://europeanstudentthinktank.com/2016/03/08/petition-on-conflictminerals-for-eu-politians/
Germany	http://oenz.de/aktuelles/online-aktion-stoppt-konfliktmineralien
Italy	http://www.amicideipopoli.org/web/index.php?mact=News+cntnt01+detail+0&cntnt01articleid=162&cntnt01origid=15&cntnt01dateformat=%25d%2F%25m%2F%25Y&cntnt01returnid=86
Italy	http://www.focsiv.it/news/una-nuova-campagna-per-fermare-i-minerali-dei-conflitti/
Austria	https://www.erzdioezese-wien.at/site/home/nachrichten/article/49207.html
Italy	http://www.earthday.it/Territorio/Minerali-provenienti-da-aree-di-conflitto.-Una-petizione-per-tenere-alta-l-attenzione
The Netherlands	https://www.cordaid.org/en/news/eu-must-come-strong-regulation-against-conflict-minerals/

Kind regards,

Art.4.1(b)

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CIDSE: international alliance of Catholic development agencies

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